

Twitchell Canyon Fire Update

For August 4 2010

Start Date: July 20, 2010

Location: 13.5 miles northeast of Beaver, Utah – near Manderfield Reservoir

Jurisdiction: National Forest System lands

Cause: Lightning

Fire Size: 800 acres

Fuel Type: The fire is burning in ponderosa pine, spruce, fir, aspen, pinyon, and juniper. A mix of live and dead down and standing trees are fueling the fire.

Contained: 0%

Structures Threatened: None

Evacuations: Campers in the area have been asked to leave.

Closures: Indian Creek Road from the junction of the Pole Canyon Road to Manderfield Reservoir

Resources Assigned: 1 (5 person) engine, and 4 overhead.

Observed Fire Behavior: The last several days as temperatures rise and humidity drops, fire activity has increased in the northeast and northwest sides of the fire.

Comments: The fire is being managed using a tool called Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS). This system assists fire managers and analysts in making strategic and tactical decisions for fire incidents. Through this process managers have determined to allow the fire burn naturally under constant observation and monitoring. Fire fighters are managing the fire to lower fire intensity along the Indian Creek Road. Brushing and thinning of the brush in this area continues to protect the view around Manderfield Reservoir.

Fire is a natural process that has been interfered with for the last century. It is desirable to restore fire to its natural state in areas that do not threaten life or personal property. Some of the benefits of fire are: restoration of Aspen; diversifies vegetation; improves wildlife habitat; and reduces fire intensity in the future.

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